



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS AIR COMBAT COMMAND
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA

9 January 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR ACC WING COMMANDERS

FROM: HQ ACC/SG
162 Dodd Blvd., Suite 100
Langley AFB VA 23665-1995

SUBJECT: Quantitative Fit Training (QNFT) Policy

1. The quantitative fit training (QNFT) and protective mask assessment (PMAT) programs are two complementary parts of the Air Force's nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) protective mask program. The QNFT program ensures the correct size mask is issued, instills mask confidence, and ensures personnel know how the mask feels when it is correctly fitted.

Numerous programs, including PMAT program, user level preventive maintenance, mask inspection during NBC training, and joint service equipment assessment ensures the mask is functioning correctly. AFMAN 32-4006, NBC Mask Fit and Liquid Hazard Simulant Training, was published prior to the establishment of the PMAT program. Due to this fact, coupled with the shortage of NBC masks, additional policy is required to make QNFT a more effective and efficient program.

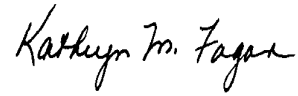
2. Bioenvironmental engineering (BE) personnel will conduct the QNFT program, while civil engineer readiness (CEX) personnel conduct protective mask assessment program in conjunction with base supply. BE personnel should be familiar with the protective mask assessment program. BE and CEX should continue to communicate with each other on technical issues concerning the NBC masks. CEX personnel will continue to conduct NBC mask familiarization, inspection, and maintenance training during annual NBC defense training. QNFT equipment and supplies will be funded through program element 27593f, chemical/biological defense program.

3. ACC units must ensure all personnel who are subject to deployment receive QNFT according to the timetable in AFMAN 32-4006. Due to mask shortages (exacerbated by disbonded masks and masks not passing the PMAT) and short-notice deployments, it may not be possible to conduct QNFT on the same mask as a person takes on deployment. If it is not practical to perform QNFT on the actual deployment mask, as an interim solution, units may conduct QNFT using the same size mask as the one the person takes on deployment. ACC is currently conducting testing to validate QNFT for mask size rather than individual mask.

4. These issues should be addressed in the next revision to AFMAN 32-4006. Until then, this interim policy supplementing the existing AFMAN 32-4006 is necessary to ensure QNFT can realistically be implemented at base level. Also, I have asked the ACC IG to consider this policy in future inspections.

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5. If you have any questions, my point of contact is Major Ron Marchioni, ACC/SGPB, DSN 574-1273, or e-mail to accsgpb.bio@langley.af.mil. The CE point of contact is MSgt Troy Odden, ACC/CEXX, DSN 574-4816, or e-mail to troy.odden@langley.af.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathryn M. Fagan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KATHRYN M. FAGAN
Colonel, USAF, NC
Deputy Command Surgeon

cc:
ACC/CE/IG/LG